



Alternate Channel

The newsletter for and about the members of the
LOUDOUN COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SYSTEM

OCTOBER 2003



Andrews Appointed to Governor's Advisory Committee

See Story on Page 4

Alternate Channel

is a monthly publication for members, families and supporters of the Loudoun County Fire-Rescue system produced by the Loudoun County Department of Fire-Rescue Services.

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Alternate Channel

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Deadline Submission Date:

Submissions for the Alternate Channel issues are due by the first business day of the previous month.

Example:

May 1st for June Issue

Company Reporters:

Co. 1 Patty Murphy-Csizmadia
Co. 2 Rick Reaves
Co. 3
Co. 4 Betty Dodge/Cyndi Vest
Co. 5 Jim Reed
Co. 6 Kay Parker
Co. 7 Jeannie Cooper
Co. 8 William D. Schwartz
Co. 9 Sara Chamblin Case
Co.10 Frank Fitchett
Co.11 David Short
Co.12 Greg Dailey
Co.13 Marie Householder
Co.14 Sue Johnson
Co.15 Wilma Grant
Co.16 Jim Dunagin
Co.17 Rodney Krone, Jr.

ATTENTION ALL FIRE & RESCUE VOLUNTEERS

LAST CHANCE TO GET YOUR BENEFITS

The Volunteer Retention & Recruitment Committee (R&R) will be receiving company volunteer retirement point forms and Vehicle Personal Property Tax Reduction (PPTR) Forms at the Fire-Rescue Training Center on:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18 – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

A designated person in your company, along with the company president, will be submitting all point records on one of these days. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE** for getting your point information to your company representative, and for correctly completing the PPTR Form. **IF YOU FAIL** to take this responsibility seriously, you can expect to lose your retirement benefit for the year, and to get a hefty tax bill on your car. If you want to retain these benefits, **YOU MUST:**

➤ **SUBMIT YOUR POINT INFORMATION** well before the day your company is scheduled to meet with the R&R Committee. It may take several days to a week for the information to be entered into the database and a points record produced for your signature.

➤ **SIGN YOUR FORMS** – Your PPTR Form must be signed on both the front and the back. It must be submitted at the same time as your point record, which must also be signed.

Retirement Point Coordinators: Please be sure to make copies of the forms that you will be submitting **BEFORE** you arrive for your appointment. The R&R Committee is not responsible for providing copies, and the copier at the Training Center will not be available during check-in.

Any problems with data entry should be promptly referred to Frankie Rust at 703-777-0568. Data entry must be completed before your scheduled appointment with the Benefits Committee. You will not have access to the 2002-2003 point records after you check in your company's forms.

CHECK YOUR ID CARD'S EXPIRATION DATE

Your Fire-Rescue ID card does have an expiration date. If you need a new card due to the expiration date, please contact Frankie Rust at 703-777-0568 (need correct spelling of last name) or e-mail frust@loudoun.gov. The card will be processed with the same photograph and sent to your company president for distribution.

If you do not want to use the same photograph, you have to go to Communications for a new photograph (please call first), the card will be processed and sent to the company president. Thanks!

NOVEMBER 2003

Regularly Scheduled Monthly Meetings of the Loudoun County Fire & Rescue System

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Companies 1,3,5,6,11,16	4 Rescue Chiefs	5 Companies 13 & 17	6 Company 15	7	8
9 Company 14	10 Companies 2,7,8,9,12 BLS Committee	11	12 Company 10 Retention & Recruitment Committee	13	14	15
16	17 Company 1 ALS Committee	18 EMS Council Sta. 1 -Points Submissions	19 Fire Council Sta. 1 -Points Submissions	20 Sta. 1 -Points Submissions	21	22
23	24 Companies 4 & 8	25 Fire-Rescue Commission	26	27	28	29
30						

SCHEDULED TRAINING

AHA CPR-Healthcare Provider

Class #7 Sun. October 19, 2003

Class #8 Sat. December 6, 2003

AED/Combi-Tube

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

BLS Protocols

Thursday, October 9, 2003

BLS Skills Verification

Saturday, October 11, 2003

Pediatric Advanced Life Support (P.A.L.S.)

October 18-19, 2003

Loudoun County Fire & Rescue Commission

Doug Rambo

Allie Love

Mickey Buchanan

Fred Muller

Joe Habib

Ian Buchanan

**Bob Griffin, Chief,
Loudoun County Department of
Fire & Rescue Services**

**Jim Burton,
Board of Supervisor**

Donald A. Sabella, M.D., Medical Director

COMPANY NEWS

Andrews Appointed to Governor's Advisory Committee

I am pleased to announce that Byron F. Andrews, Chief 15, has been appointed to the Governor's Advisory Committee in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Byron brings to the Governor's Advisory Committee many years of experience and expertise as a BLS and ALS Provider from both the volunteer and career perspectives.

I feel much more comfortable knowing that Byron will be representing us and ensuring that our thoughts and ideas are voiced at this level.

I am sure that you will join me in congratulating Byron on his appointment and offering him our full support.

Leo C. Kelly, PA
Chairman
The Loudoun County EMS
Advisory Council, Inc.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Delegate May -

I wanted to drop you a quick note to say thanks again for your assistance last year with volunteer fire and rescue recruitment legislation. After the legislation was signed by the Governor, we worked with the County and the Board of Supervisors to introduce both programs. I thought you would be interested in the status of each project.

The first bill authorized local government to allow fire and rescue volunteers to join their group health programs if the volunteer paid the full cost of the enrollment. Loudoun adopted the program this summer and eight volunteers joined the County's group health insurance in the August open enrollment period. We have discovered that while the County's health program is very comprehensive, the cost of participation may be prohibitive for broader participation. We're working with the County to explore other options,

like reduced dental and optical coverage.

The second bill authorized local government to establish tuition reimbursement programs for fire and rescue volunteers. The Board of Supervisors approved the program last evening and we have already had inquiries from a few volunteers. We are hopeful that this program will help us to attract young volunteers, motivate them to serve their community and go to college, and retain them as volunteer firefighters and EMTs.

Again, we appreciate your support. I wanted you to know that the Board of Supervisors, the County Administration, the Fire and Rescue Commission, and our local Retention and Recruitment Committee used the tools that you helped us obtain.

Regards,
Doug Rambo, Chairman
Fire and Rescue Commission